

Government Has No Alternative

Forced to Take Action in Regard to Civil Service Report

Ottawa, April 1. — Shortly after the meeting of the Commons this afternoon, the Premier made an important statement outlining the government's policy in regard to the Civil Service Report.

After referring to his own previous pronouncements as to the necessity of an investigation, the Premier said his Hon. friend Mr. Broder, was investigating his department as to his own duties would permit in order to determine, in what respect it could be reformed. In the discharge of that duty one officer was suspended some weeks ago, and since the report of the commission has been laid on the table by his colleagues, he has arrived at the conclusion that he must also suspend two other prominent officials. It was only just to the Deputy Minister, in this connection to say, that he had on two previous occasions tendered his resignation, and this morning again presented his resignation to the Minister, who was considering the matter. The House was aware of very grave statements with regard to the honesty of the officials being made in the report and the matter was of such serious character that the Minister thought it imperative to deal with that part of the report, and recommended a royal commission to be issued to deal with it. In order to have the facts properly investigated the administration had acceded to this view and Walter Cassels, Judge of Eschequer Court, had been appointed. He reminded the House that in appointing the Civil Service Commission the government was aware of the subject, which engrossed the government generally and had thought it advisable to appoint an absolutely impartial and disinterested commission and the result is a

pretty broad and general report. The government will deal as soon as possible with the various questions brought to its attention by the report, but he could not say if it would be possible to go very far this session. The House is now sitting about four months and all are anxious for the blessing of prorogation, if that be possible during the year 1908. The government's intention is to proceed as expeditiously as possible. On the broad question of Civil Service he understood that though he had no opportunity to read the report, except as seen in the newspapers, the commissioners had made representations on the subject although not embodied in the bill in the case of superannuation for instance. Therefore the idea is being brought in here without specifications and it may require some time before a bill can be prepared on these lines. Subsequently the Premier announced that the suspended officials are J. T. Gregory, agent of the department at Quebec and J. F. Fraser, commissioner of lights, with headquarters in the same place. The one suspended some weeks ago is A. A. Owens, accountant of the department.

Mr. R. L. Borden asked whether the royal commission was to deal with the department generally or solely with the matters advanced by the Civil Service Commission. He also asked if the government had come to the conclusion that as a matter of policy, they would adopt the system of competitive examinations by an independent commission. The Premier replied that an order in council would be brought down in respect to the first question. In regard to the second question, he thought it better before making any statement to have the report before him.

Alterations in Postal Service

We are informed by Mr. Thomson, our Postmaster that an alteration has been made on the outgoing Sunday mail. Letters now go out by the Sunday afternoon train and the Edmonton mail is also taken across in the afternoon. Letters therefore posted in Strathcona, on Sunday forenoon will be delivered in Edmonton on Monday morning's mail. With regard to the general Strathcona-Edmonton service Mr. Thomson points out that in order to be delivered in Edmonton by the morning delivery letter must be posted early in the forenoon afternoon in Strathcona. Mr. Thomson leaves the sorting of the local mail as late as possible but it must of course go across the river by the general mail wagon the evening of the afternoon train. Letters posted here later go across the following morning. They do not seem however, to be sent out from the Edmonton Post office until the second morning. Some arrangement should be made whereby the Strathcona mail, which leaves here at 8.30 in the morning is distributed in Edmonton that day.

CRIME CAUSED BY JEALOUSY.

Los Angeles, April 1. — Mrs. Helen Griffin, 28 years old, who had been a resident of Monrovia since the beginning of the racing season at Santa Anita, was shot and killed yesterday by Mrs. L. Z. Dearman, whose husband has been racing horses at Santa Anita during the past season. Mrs. Dearman fired five shots, one of which took effect under her victim's left ear, killing her almost instantly. The motive for the shooting is admitted by Dearman to have been jealousy of him by his wife. The weapon used was a 32 calibre revolver.

RAILWAY WORK OPENS IN SOUTH

McLeod, April 1. — Contractor McDonald with a corps of assistants came in last night prepared to commence work at once on the C.P.R. cut-off between here and Lethbridge. Headquarters have been established here and the work of building the 30 miles of road will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. Stations will be established along the route, and sub-contractors are now being let. It is the purpose of the C. P. R. to have the new road ready for service before the close of the summer season.

BRITISH VOLUNTEERS ABOLISHED.

London, April 1. — With the stroke of midnight Great Britain's volunteer army became a thing of the past, after an existence of 47 years, and a territorial army, introduced by Secretary Haldane, began its career. The volunteer forces throughout the country celebrated their last post, at their respective headquarters by dinners and other celebrations, the festivities, however, taking on somewhat of a sad character, owing to the disappearance of the old association. Most of the gatherings were attended by veterans and friends of the service, who exchanged old memories as midnight struck there were stirring scenes as to who would be the first to enlist in the new body many hundreds were thus recruited. In some cases practically the whole force took the new regimental flag in the new force.

Wss Lost And is Found

Mr. W. J. Fraser, a well-known citizen, had a rather fortunate experience yesterday. Many months ago he lost a horse and extensive advertising both here and at Lethbridge failed to procure the return of the animal. Yesterday as he was walking up the street Mr. Fraser's eye lit on a horse striding similarly to his lost quadruped. He immediately spoke to the driver and an examination of the horse proved that the horse was the one which had been lost. Questioned the driver, a Galician, declared that he had bought the horse from a man named Campbell in Lethbridge. This did not satisfy Mr. Fraser as no bill of sale was produced and the horse was taken possession of. The man who had possession of the horse declared that he will produce Campbell. Whatever the outcome may be one thing is certain that the horse was illegally retained by some one. The sort of thing cannot be too severely dealt with in this locality. Victims are to have the most stringent observation of the law the possibility of endless fraud is opened up.

Duma Members want More pay

St. Petersburg, April 1. — Following the lead of the legislators of Russia and Washington, fifty members of the Russian Duma today introduced a bill for the increase of their salaries by the extension through the recess of their present compensation of \$5 a day. They complain that the sum they now receive is wholly inadequate in the St. Petersburg scale of living.

PIERCE LABOR RIOT.

Chicago April 1. — Several persons were severely injured in a riot which broke out at the Island Steel mills, in Indian Harbor, Ind., among six hundred Hungarians and Roumanians. For several hours the police were unable to disperse the mob. Reserves were called from east and west and the rioters were made and for the first time since the Lithuanians discharged from the mills during the financial panic and who had failed to secure work when the plant was reopened attacked the Roumanian employees as they left the company's grounds. Bricks and stones were used as weapons. When the police charged the crowd, the Hungarians turned and attacked them. Sergeant Brown was struck and slightly injured by a brick.

Fatal Collision on I. C. R.

New Castle, N. B., April 1. — In a head-on collision between two inter-colonial trains at Derby Junction near here, late-day one man was killed and several injured. The dead: Bert Lamkey, of Starcourt; single, brakeman on the west-bound special, killed on the engine. Injured: Conductor Edward Vye, bowled through the door of the regular, badly hurt; Horatio Jardine, Indian Town, a passenger, hurled through the door may die; Andrew McCabe, engineer, regular and fireman of special, both badly hurt. The regular train was in charge of Conductor Vye, travelling in Indian Town and the special was in charge of Conductor Clifford Dixon. It passed Derby Junction before the regular had time to take the branch line and a collision was inevitable. The engine of the regular and a passenger car were badly damaged and four cars derailed.

Conservatives Meet

A largely attended meeting of Conservatives was held in Ross's Hall last night. Mr. J. J. Duggan, President of the Association was in the chair. After a few remarks by Mr. O. Bush who pointed out the many prospects of Conservatism at the present time and declared that what the Conservative party had done for their own party in 1896 the Liberals would do for the Laurier Government at this election, viz: turn them out of power. Mr. Hyndman, the Conservative candidate for the Edmonton Riding was called upon. Mr. Hyndman gave an instructive and practical address. He pointed out many instances that had occurred recently which showed the graft and corruption which were rampant at Ottawa. He dealt first with the Civil Service Commission report pointing out that the personnel was entirely friendly to the government politically. The revelations Mr. Hyndman said were sufficient to turn any government out of power even if they stood alone but there were a thousand and one other examples of misdeeds which could be cited. Turning to the Accounting Branch in the Marine and Fisheries Department the speaker showed how a crowd of unknown men of whom the government had not even the address had been paid \$2,000 for accounting. He showed conclusively how these bootleggers had been preying on the public funds. He next dealt with the timber limit scandals and supplemented the already well-known facts with interesting details. He stated that a petition had been received from the settlers in the Riviere Qui Parle district asking that ten miles of timber limits should be reserved there. This petition reached the Department of the Interior on January 28, 1904. The department replied that the limit referred to No. 112 had been granted to A. W. Fraser the previous day.

The meeting thereafter was addressed by Mr. F. C. Jamieson who recommended optimistically to the prospects of the party. On the motion of Mr. R. H. Palmer it was arranged that the President should nominate a committee to wait on Mr. Morris the Edmonton Registrar to obtain information as to the organization system adopted in that city. The President nominated Mr. Downes, Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Palmer. A vote of thanks having been accorded Mr. Hyndman on the motion of Mr. Bush, the meeting was adjourned till Wednesday, April 8th when the organization will be proceeded with and committees nominated.

Bad Storm in Saskatchewan

Winnipeg, April 1. — After stirring for a few days with spring, part of the Canadian west is again in the grip of winter. The worst blizzard of the season, which struck Northern Saskatchewan yesterday, is now general and for the first time this winter reports are coming in of traffic blocked on branch lines and delay to main lines. This is the more unfortunate as a good deal of stock and settlers effects are now being moved in from south of the boundary, but the railways are in a vastly better condition to handle an emergency than during the disastrous storm of this time last year. There is no shortage of power, and rotary powers are doing good work while a heavy snowfall will put back the clock a few days, so far as seeding operations are concerned, the precipitation was really needed to get much of the land into good shape.

Saskatoon, April 1. — The first block of water occurred on the C.N.R. Prince Albert branch last night. The north-bound train was stalled for 24 hours before being freed, and yesterday's excess south arrived thirty hours late. It is rumored the locomotives were in collision, but this is officially denied.

G. T. P. HAS MONEY.

London, April 1. — At the semi-annual meeting of the Grand Trunk today it was announced that the whole funds required under the Grand Trunk guarantee for prairie and mountain sections and the Lake Superior Branch of the G. T. P. had been raised, excepting 70,000 pounds which sum was not wanted now.

Emperor Gets A Raise

Berlin, April 1. — An authentic report is in circulation here that there will soon be introduced in the Prussian diet a bill raising the civil list of the Emperor. This list amounts to \$3,500,000 a year, which sum is paid the emperor as the King of Prussia, as German emperor, a position which carries no salary. The explanation offered for raising the list is the increase in the cost of living, which is particularly heavy on the royal household because a large number of children and other persons are dependent upon the purse of the monarch. In this connection it was learned to-day that the reports that the emperor has lived beyond his income and often called upon rich friends for temporary loans are incorrect. On the contrary His Majesty up to several years ago, saved each year a considerable sum from his income and invested it for his children.

QUARTER MILLION MEN STRIKE.

Indianapolis, March 31. — Two hundred and fifty thousand pickers dropped from the hands of as many bituminous coal miners of the United States this evening, not to be used again until a wage settlement has been reached and a scale adopted between the members of the United Mine Workers of America and the coal operators of the various fields will be idle. The situation does not indicate a prolonged strike. An open winter and industrial depression have left a large stock of coal on hand and the differences between miners and operators are very slight. It is practically agreed that the present wage scale will be continued but some policies in connection with the change to night in the national officers of the Miner's organization and the local differences between operators and miners have resulted in temporary suspension from work until a new wage scale is agreed to either by districts or by individual miners.

Footballers Hold Annual Meeting

Last evening in the rooms of the Railway Commercial College the Strathcona City Football Club held their annual meeting. There was a large attendance of supporters and players and the interest already taken augurs well for the success of the team during the coming season.

The following officers were elected: Patrons—Hon. A. C. Rutherford, E. W. Day, Rev. W. R. George, Captain Carstairs, A. C. Gregg, H. F. Sandeman, T. W. Lines, W. H. Sheppard, A. Davis, Dr. Archibald, A. Buchan, O. Blain, Van Someren. Hon. President—Mayor Mills. President—Dr. Crang. Vice-President—H. E. Palmer. Secretary—J. E. McGregor-Gardner. Captain—S. Judge. Vice-Captain—E. Carmichael. Selection Committee—S. Newman, E. G. Aldred, A. Davison, Jr., A. McKay, with Capt. V. Albert and Sec. Delegates to Vice Association, C. C. Secretary and Captain. Colors Red and White.

It was decided to make the membership fee one dollar per year as for merely and all members are requested to pay up before May 1st. The outlook for the club for this season is most promising. Nearly all of last year's team are available besides a large number of new recruits from the Old Country, who should greatly strengthen the team. Last season this club was successful winning all games played but one and captured the inter-city championship. They also got into the semi-finals in the Provincial League, with splendid chances of winning it, but lack of funds kept them from competing.

Tested Power With Match

Shawnee, Okla., April 1. — Boys playing near a half-acre of dynamite powder and dynamite caps at the Missouri and Kansas stock yards became involved in a dispute as to whether the powder was good or bad. They determined to test it and applied a match. An explosion followed that was heard for miles.

BLIZZARD STOPS TRAINS.

St. Paul April 1. — A special from Crookston, Minn., says the entire River Valley is in the grip of the worst blizzard of the winter. G.N. and N.W. railways have been closed since the snow began and all trains are late as the result. The storm is raging since last night. A foot of snow has fallen.

Chronicle Literary Columns

Then I became respectable and returned to an office where there were no kings and no incidents except the daily manufacture of a newspaper. A newspaper office seems to attract every conceivable sort of person, to the prejudice of discipline. Zenana mission ladies arrive and beg that the editor will instantly abandon all his duties to describe a Christian girl giving in a back-slim of a particularly inaccessible village; colonels have been overpassed for a command sit down and sketch the outline of a series of ten twelve or twenty-four leading articles on seniority versus selection; missionaries wish to know why they have not been permitted to escape from their regular vehicles of abuse and swear at a brother missionary under special patronage of the editorial We; stranded theatrical companies troop up to explain that they cannot pay for their advertisements, but that on their return from New Zealand or Tahiti they will do so with interest; inventors of patent pump-killing machines, large couplings and unbreakable axles call with specifications in their pockets and hounst their disposal; tea companies enter and elaborate their prospectuses with the office pens; secretaries of hall committees clamor to have the glories of their last dance more fully expounded; strange ladies rustle in and say "I want a hundred ladies, cards printed at once, please," which is manifestly part of an editor's duties; and every discolored ruffian that ever tramped the Grand Trunk Road makes it his business to ask for employment as a proof reader. And all the time the telephone bell is ringing madly, and kings are being killed on the continent, and empires are saying "You're another," and Mr. Gladstone is calling down blessings upon the British Dominions, and the little black copy boys

are whining "Kaspi, chay-baysh" (copy wanted) like tired bees, and most of the paper is blank as Mohler's shield.

But that is the amusing part of the year. There are other six months wherein none ever come to call and the thermometer walks inch by inch up to the top of the glass, and the office is darkened to just above reading light and the press machines are set hot of touch and nobody writes anything but accounts of amusements in the hill stations or obituary notices. Then the telephone becomes a tinkling terror, because it tells of the sudden deaths of men and women that you knew intimately, and the prickly heat covers you as with a garment, and you sit down and write: "A slight increase of sickness is reported from the Khuda Janata Khan district." The outbreak is purely sporadic in its nature, and, thanks to the energetic efforts of the district authorities, is now almost at an end. It is, however, with deep regret we record the death of

Then the sickness really breaks out again, and we record it and convey the better for the peace of the subscribers. But the empires and the kings continue to divert themselves as sedulously as before, and the foreman thinks that a daily paper really ought to come out once in twenty-four hours, and all the people of the hill stations in the midst of their sparkling? I'm sure there's plenty going on up here."

That is the dark hall of the moon and as the advertisements say, "must be experienced to be appreciated." It was that season, and a remarkably evil season, that the paper began running the last issue of the week on Saturday night, that is to say Sunday morning, after the custom of a London paper. This was a great convenience, for immediately after the paper was put to bed the room of to almost 4 for half an hour, and in that chill you had no idea how cold is 34 on the glass un-

til you begin to pray for it—every tired man could set off to sleep and the heat raised him. One Saturday night it was my pleasant duty to put the paper to bed alone. A king or courtier or a courtier or a community was going to die or get a new constitution, or do something that was important on the other side of the world, and the paper was to be held open until the last possible minute in order to catch the telegram. It was a pitiful black night, as stilling as a June night can be, and the loo, the red hot wind from the westward, was booming among the timber dry trees and pretending that the rain was on its heels. Now and again a spout of almost boiling water would fall on the dust with the flop of a frog, but all our weary world knew that was only pretence. It was a shak cabin in the press room than the office so I sat there while the type ticked and clicked and the night-jars hooted at the windows, and the all but naked compositors wiped the sweat from their foreheads and called for water. The thing that was keeping us back, however, it was, would not come off, though the loo dropped and the last type was set, and the whole round earth stood still in the choking heat with its finger on its lip, to wait the event. I drowsed and wondered whether the telegraph was a blessing and whether this dying man, or struggling people was aware of the inconvenience this delay was causing. There was no special reason beyond the heat and the worry to make tension, but as the clock hands crept up to three o'clock and the machines spun their fly wheels two or three times to see that all was in order, before I said the word that would set them off, I could have shrieked aloud.

Then the roar and the rattle of the wheels shivered the quiet into little bits. I rose to go away, but two men in white clothes stood in front of me. The first one said "Hello, him." The second said "So it is?" and they both laughed almost as loudly as the machinery roared, and mopped their foreheads. "We see there was a light burning across the road and we were sleeping in that ditch there for coolness," and I said to my friend here, "The office is open. Let's come along and speak to him as he turned up back from the Degumher State," said the smaller of the two. He was the man I had met in the Mohow train, and his fellow was the red-headed man of Marwar Junction. There was no mistaking the eyebrows of the one or the beard of the other. I was not pleased because I wished to go to sleep not to squabble with haters. "What do you want?" I asked. "Half an hour's talk with you cool and comfortable in the office," said the red-headed man. "We'd like some drink—the Contract doesn't begin yet, Peachey, so you needn't look—but what we really want is advice. We don't want money. We ask you a favor, because you did us a bad turn about Degumher."

I led from the press room to the stilling office with the maps on the walls, and the red-headed man rubbed his hands. "That's something like," said he. This was the proper shop to come to. Now, sir, let me introduce to you Brother Peachey Carnehan, that's him, and Brother Daniel Dravot, that's me, and the less said about our professions the better, for we have been most things in our time: Soldier, sailor, compositor, photographer, proof reader, street preacher, and correspondents of the Backwoodsmen when we thought the paper wanted one. Carnehan is sober, and so am I. Look at us first and see that's all we'll save you cutting into my talk. We'll take one of your cigars apiece, and you shall see us light a rapid peg.

I watched the test. The men were abominably sober, so I gave each of them a rapid peg. "Well and good," said Carnehan of the eyebrows, wiping the froth from his mustache. "Let me talk now Daniel. We have been all over India, mostly as on foot. We have been boiler fitters, engine drivers, petty contractors, and all that, and we have decided that India isn't big enough for such as us." They certainly were too big for the office. Dravot's beard seemed to fill half the room and Carnehan's shoulders the other half as they sat on the big table. Carnehan continued: "The country isn't half worked out because they that governs it won't let you touch it. They spend all their blessed time in governing it, and you can't lift a spade nor chip a rock nor look for oil, nor anything like that without all the Government saving without all the Government saving. 'Leave it alone and let us govern.' Therefore, such as it is, we will let it alone, and go away to some other place where a man isn't crowded not little men, and there is nothing that we are afraid of except drink, and we have signed a Contract on that. There fore we are going to be kings."

"Kings in our own right," muttered Dravot. "Yes, of course," I said, "You've been tramping in the sun and it's a very warm night, and now, you'd better sleep over the notion and come to-morrow?" "Neither drunk nor sunstruck," field Dravot, "We have slept over the notion half a year, and require to see books and atlases, and we have decided that there is only one place in the world that two strong men can Sara-whack. They call it Kafiristan. By my reckoning it's the top right hand corner of Malak, not more than three hundred miles from Peshawar. They have two and thirty heathen idols there, and we'll be the first to throw them down. It's a mountainous country, and the women of those parts are very beautiful."

"But that is provided against in the Contract," said Carnehan. "Neither women nor liquor, Daniel." "And that's all we know, except that no one has gone there, and they fight, and in any place where they fight a man who knows how to drill men can always be a king. We shall go to those parts and say to any king we find: 'Deyoh want to vanquish your foes?' and we will show him how to drill men, for that we know better than anything else. Then we will subvert that king and seize his throne and establish a dynasty." "You'll be cut to pieces before you are fifty miles across the border," I said. "You have to travel through Afghanistan to get to that country, it's one mass of mountains and peaks and glaciers, and no Englishman has been through it. The people are utter brutes, and even if you reach them you couldn't do anything." "That's more like," said Carnehan. "If you could think us a little more hard we would be more pleased. We have come to you to know about this country, to read a book about it, and to be shown maps. We want you to tell us that we are fools and to show us your books." He turned to the book cases. "Are you at all in earnest?" I said. "A little," said Dravot sweetly. "Give me a map as you have got, even if it's all blank where Kafiristan is, and any books you've got. We can read, though we aren't very clever."

(To be continued).

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